

## Chris Swope Lansing City Clerk

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## Lansing City Clerk Announces Updated Scoring Criteria for Phase Two Provisioning Center Applications

Lansing – Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope announced updated Provisioning Center scoring criteria for the second application period, the dates of which have yet to be determined.

Within the framework provided by the Ordinance, even more consideration will be given to high wage jobs created in the City, health insurance and benefits provided to workers, and financial investment in the City. In addition, the criteria promotes a wider dispersement of dispensaries, to help ensure medication is available to those who may not have access to transportation and to avoid clustering of provisioning centers. These changes were made based on feedback provided by the public and desire by the Clerk to maximize the benefit to the city from the remaining five facilities..

Within the same one hundred point possible score, eight points will now be awarded to applicants who have received pre-approval from the State of Michigan. This will help streamline the State of Michigan and City of Lansing's approval processes.

Experience gained in the first round and input from both the public and applicants will be integrated into the Phase 2 application process, which should help to shorten the time it takes to review the individual applications. Detailed information about the application process will be available to the public before the application window opens.

"There is always knowledge to be gained the first time you go through any process," Clerk Swope said. "In this case we are able to use that knowledge to make changes which should provide maximum benefit to our City and speed up the review process, while still working within the parameters set by the Ordinance. Although the start of Phase 2 is at least a month away, we want potential applicants to be aware of the changes."

While the Ordinance provides a broad outline of important factors, the Clerk is charged with determining the standards and process for selecting the most qualified applicants.

"At the end of this process the goal is to have 25 operating provisioning centers which will provide the best service to their patients, operate safely in our neighborhoods, employ Lansing residents at a fair wage, and provide an increased tax base for improving services across the city, bringing a benefit to all our residents," said Clerk Swope.

The number of provisioning centers is limited by the Ordinance, and applications for them are only accepted during set periods. However, applications for grow, processing, secure transport, and safety compliance facilities are accepted on an ongoing basis.

To date, 175 medical marijuana applications have been accepted since the Ordinance went into effect, of which 116 have been approved, bringing in \$727,500 in fees to the city.

## **Provisioning Center Phase 1 Update**

See the chart below for the current status of the 85 provisioning center applications which were received in December 2017.

Phase 1 will not be completed until all denied applicants have exhausted their two step appeals process with the City, which can take up to ten weeks. With provisioning center appeals tentatively scheduled with the Medical Marijuana Commission through March 15, Phase 1 could be extended additional months if applicants that are currently conditionally approved or pending are denied.

License Type	LICENSED	CONDITIONALLY APPROVED	PENDING	DENIED	DENIED & REFUNDED	WITHDRAWN	Total Of status number
Med. Marihuana Provisioning Center	2	12	6	10	51	4	85

For further information on Lansing's Medical Marihuana Ordinance, to download applications and forms, or view a list of applicants and their current status, please visit lansingmi.gov/marijuana.

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